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OTS/BAB MEMO #296-75  
15 August 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Destruction of Documents in 1973

1. Early in 1973, Dr. Gottlieb, Chief of TSD, summoned me and [ ] to his office. [ ] was then Chief of BAB and I was EXO/DAB. Dr. Gottlieb advised that he had just received a phone call from Mr. Helms who said that he was in the process of housecleaning in preparation for turning over the Agency to Mr. Schlesinger. Mr. Helms commented that since Dr. Gottlieb would also be leaving soon, it seemed like a good time to destroy all files pertaining to drug research and associated activities, and he instructed Dr. Gottlieb to do just that, according to Chief, TSD, who in turn instructed BAB to destroy all of its files. I recall commenting that I had recently reviewed all of our files and was certain that I had no drug or drug related files. I did state however, that we had 25 copies of a classified booklet entitled, "LSD-25, Some Un-Psychedelic Implications." I asked if he wanted these destroyed and he said he did. Finally, he asked me to confirm by close of business that all data had been destroyed.

2. I returned to my office, once again reviewed our files and once again concluded that we had no drug files. I then destroyed the 25 copies of the above mentioned booklet. Shortly thereafter I spoke briefly with Chief, Chemistry Branch who had received identical orders from Dr. Gottlieb. He showed me a memorandum he had prepared listing a number of drug related documents that he had destroyed. I recall commenting facetiously that he would now have to destroy his memorandum.

3. Late in the afternoon, I confirmed to Dr. Gottlieb that I had destroyed the 25 booklets. I then briefed COP/OTS, [ ] on what had transpired, and have mentioned the incident to various OTS personalities over the past several years, whenever queried on documentation regarding BAB's role in drug research.

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Chief, OTS/BAB

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